

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-8 are pending.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tajiri, U.S. Patent No. 5,727,009. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites that “openings are formed above and beneath the end of each of the leads which protrudes inside the end walls on upper and lower surfaces of the insulative frame.” The Examiner asserts that this feature is shown in Fig. 21 and described at col. 21, lines 24-33, of Tajiri. However, Tajiri only teaches, at best, that an opening is formed above the end of each of the leads.

Tajiri discloses a mold body that has a concave portion 55 so that the surface of the frame 52 and the leads 53 are exposed inside (col. 21, lines 24-26). Therefore, Tajiri does disclose an opening above the leads, but does not disclose an opening beneath the end of the leads. Further, Tajiri actually discloses that the concave portion is closed by the support member 61 to prevent undesirable light from coming into the concave portion 55 from the outside. Thus, Tajiri does not actually disclose an opening above the leads because this opening is meant to be closed by the support member 61. Still further, if the support member 61 closes the concave portion so tightly that light cannot come through, there is no way that the concave portion has an opening at its bottom portion or light would come through on that side. In its assembled state, the device of Tajiri does not disclose either the top (above the leads) opening or the bottom (beneath the leads) opening of claim 1 of the application.

Claims 3 and 6 recite that thick portions are formed on opposing side walls extending in a longitudinal direction of the insulative frame. Tajiri fails to teach or suggest this feature.

Tajiri teaches a concave portion 55 in the insulating mold body 54. However, Tajiri does not disclose that there are thick portions on opposing walls extending in a longitudinal direction of the insulative frame. Fig. 1 of the instant application demonstrates what is meant by the longitudinal direction. Fig. 6 shows the thick portions in the side walls at element 12. These thick

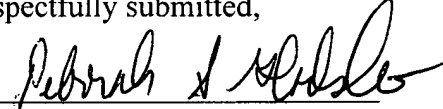
portions increase the longitudinal strength of the insulative frame. In comparison, referring to Fig. 21 of the Tajiri reference, the side walls in the longitudinal direction do not have thick portion in comparison to the side walls along the other direction. In fact, it appears from Fig. 21 that the side walls along the latitudinal direction are thicker than the side walls in the longitudinal direction. Thus, Tajiri fails to teach or suggest the features of claims 3 or 6.

The remaining claims are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies.
Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 204552030200.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Deborah S. Gladstein

Registration No.: 43,636
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
1650 Tysons Blvd, Suite 300
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 760-7753